/25 cont./

793 and to receive the title of Cheikh, with the advantages which
* 795 that confers. While waiting, he works at hoeing and clearing
244 land without counting or measuring all the lands capable of pro-
[555] ducing the groundnuts which make up the fortune of his mara-
bout.

It is this way of colonizing the lands, and more particularly the new lands, which has made the brotherhood play an important role in the economy of Senegal in recent years. The Murid marabouts have been and remain clearers /26/ of land and large-
[433] scale producers of groundnuts. It can be estimated that they alone produce a little more than half of the total harvest of the Territory.

793 This brilliant picture is nevertheless not without shadows.
*795 Even though the influence of the Murid leaders is not dangerous
518 on the political level as a consequence of the good understanding which exists between them and the Administration, even though there is no reason to fear that they may incite the members of the brotherhood to insubordination, their presence in the villages does pose problems. There are problems when they have settled in villages whose chiefs are not Murids (if not, sometimes, anti-Murid). In these cases it often happens that there are collisions
[627] between the customary chiefs and the Murid marabouts, principally since the reforms of 1945 which diminished considerably the powers of the chiefs and their prestige in the eyes of the people at a time when the influence and glory of the marabouts were increasing. Many times the Murids of a canton want to obey
• [632] only their religious leader and willfully ignore the canton chief. In addition, in the face of the invading agricultural activity of the Murids, the non-Murid populations stiffen themselves more and more and try to resist their agrarian encroachments. That sometimes creates quarrels; indeed it even provokes violent disorders which have to be arbitrated or stopped.

793 On the other hand, the recent political evolution which is
*795 resulting in giving the right to vote to all Senegalese men and
666 all Senegalese women has prompted the politicians to seek the collaboration and friendship of the Murid leaders... so that they

/101 cont./

134 everywhere the terrain is suitable for the cultivation of groundnuts, except in Bas-Saloum.

137 A very dense, thorny, and shrubby vegetation grows in the sandy soil. This is the region of the cades (Acacia albida). In the silico-argillaceous lands of the south and east, the vegetation is more vigorous; one still finds there at the present time interesting forest stocks, vestiges of the great forests of former times. These groves are on the way to disappearing as a result of the abuses of clearing and of the unfortunately too frequent fires. The forests of Patako, between Messira and Coular, and of Dasilamé, between Nioro and Médina, which contain many hardwoods, Gambian mahogany, vène, and hire, are to be protected.

II. Administrative Organization

634 Territorial divisions. The two large native commands of Sine and Saloum have been eliminated, and the title of Bour, which was only honorific in nature, has ceased to exist legally.

• 632 634 The circle is divided into three major administrative subdivisions:

1st, Subdivision of Sine, chief town Fatick;

2nd, Subdivision of Bas-Saloum, with Foundiougne as the chief town;

3rd, Subdivision of Saloum Oriental, chief town Kaolack.

An administrator is at the head of the circle, and each subdivision is commanded by an official of the corps of administrators or of the corps of civil services.

632 Divided among these three subdivisions are 19 cantons or native commands, each /102/ of which is headed by a canton chief.

The subdivision of Saloum Oriental has 11 cantons:

Kaolack-Laghem,
Kahone,
Diokoul-Gandiaye,
Gossas,
Niom-Rip,
Nioro-Rip,

/102 cont./

632 N'Gahaye,
N'Guer,
Pakalla-Mandack
N'Doukoumane (Kaffrine)
Koungheul.

The subdivision of Sine is divided into five cantons:

Diakhao-Maroutte,
Sanghaye-N'Gayokème,
Diohine,
Diouroup,
Dangana.

The subdivision of Bas-Saloum has three cantons:

Djilor,
Sokone,
Niombato.

162 The population is distributed as follows:

Subdivision of Kaolack	141,000	inhabitants
Subdivision of Sine.....	89,000	"
Subdivision of Bas-Saloum...	50,000	"
Total	280,000	

633 Mixed communes. Mixed communes have been created in certain important localities. There are four of them:

Kaolack,
Fatick,
Foundiougne,
Gossas.

633 /103/ The mixed commune of Kaolack has 700 Europeans
162 and assimilated individuals /assimilés/ and 8,000 natives (20 years ago it had 50 Europeans and 600 natives).

That of Fatick has 2,000 natives and 120 Europeans. Those of Foundiougne and Gossas have 50 Europeans and 800 natives each.

633 The importance of Kaolack comes from the fact that it is the principal port of the Saloum, the terminal point of a branch of the major railroad from the Sudan, and the center of a region that is a great producer of groundnuts.

There is a chamber of commerce, a court of the first